THE
Dominion Philatelist
Official Organ of the Dominion Philatelic Association.

VOL. 1. TORONTO, MARCH, 1904. NO. 4.

Stamp Designs

(THE EDITOR)

A great deal has been written on what may be termed the by-products of philatelical study, and it is not for an ardent philatelist to quarrel with the conclusion reached, that from the study of stamps much knowledge, of various degrees of usefulness, is to be derived. Among our advantages is that of a cultivation of taste as applied to design, obtained by the comparison of one design with another and the reference of a design to the things after which it is copied or to the ideas which it expresses.

The connection of the postal service with the growth of commerce supplies the designer with an idea which has been liberally availed of, and thus we have the sailing vessel, steamship and locomotive portrayed on many stamps, and on others the substitution of the abstract for the concrete represented by the figures of Mercury and commerce. Originally mercury was the mythical symbol of trade, but we notice on the stamps of France, Mercury coupled with a female figure, representing, presumably, the same idea. Elsewhere, we see this female figure with a cornucopia, the emblem of plenty.

It is something more than our natural prejudice in favor of earlier issues that leads us to the opinion that these emissions in many cases surpass the attempts of later days. The first issues of Great Britain, France and Greece appeal to us in in their simplicity, their chastity and their fitness more than do subsequent and more elaborate designs. The severe profile of Hermes on the Grecian stamps, the no less severe symbol of the Republic on those of France and the quiet, conventionalized head of Victoria on the Great Britain one penny and two pence 1840, send forth a continual and forcible appeal to taste.

An innovation in the field of design has recently been made by France in the "Sower Set" in which is depicted Millett's famous figure of "The Sower." This is an idea which could easily be carried too far, since the office of postage stamps is not to be a national picture gallery. At all events, the writer's preference is for the most inconspicuous and modest allegory and symbolism on stamps and not for too ambitious attempts to reproduce in a stamp's limited space, subjects suited only to large canvases.

Objection is also to my mind, to many portraits on a country's stamps. I have not seen a successful issue embodying portraits; certainly the United States has not fared well in pursuance of the plan. Such issues may be interesting to the physiognomist, but the idea has not yet been wrought into an ar-artistic success.

Perhaps of all great countries the United States has least exhibited a refined taste in its postal issues. Exceeding all in pure hideousness is the 1869 set, a squat series, at varience with itself and almost everything else. The 2c green of 1-87 has been aptly described as resembling "a handful of stewed spinach slapped up against a white marble tombstone." Indeed it is always found that the older countries exhibit a better taste in stamp designing than newer communities, the explanation of which phenomenon however, would take us too far afield.

Especially dear to my heart, among the designs, are the seated figure of Britannia on the stamps of Barbardos and Trinidad, Switzerland with her white cross, Bavaria with her coat of arms, Cape of Good Hope; many British Colonies show a really meritorious arrangement along conventional lines.

Why Some Stamps Were Issued

A paper read before the Stamp Collectors' Club of Toronto by G. A. Lowe.

In looking over Scott's Catalogue this morning, it struck me as being remarkable, the oddness of values of postage stamps issued by some countries. I wondered, as no doubt many other collectors have, for what purpose some of these stamps were issued; for instance, 12½d and 7½d New South Wales, 96 Hong Kong, the 1s 9d, Ceylon used in the fifties and sixties. Again the stamps of Seychelles; almost every value in the series would make the Philatelic student wonder for what purpose they were intended, especially, especially such denominations as 13c, 15c, 16c, 45c, 48c, and 96c. In Mauritius, also, we have dozens of these odd values; in fact, you can hardly take up any country without finding numbers of these of valuation.

To come nearer home, we have the 12c, 13c, 24c Newfoundland. The whole series of Prince Edward Island is made up of odd values. To give the purposes for which each of these stamps was issued would be a history in itself.

Then we have 17c New Brunswick, the 7½c and 12½c. Nova Scotia, and our Canadian series are are full of odd denominations. It is deplorable the ignorance of most collectors, even members of our own club, as to the uses our Canadian stamps were intended to serve.

The ½d Canada was used on newspapers, but sometimes they are found in large blocks or strips sufficient to make up letter postage, which was 3d per half ounce in Canada.

The 6d was used as postage in double rate letters also being the

rate for single weight letters to the United States.

The 7½d was issued for letters to Great Britain by the Canadian mail, while to send same to Great Britain via the U.S. mail, an extra 2½d was required, thus necessitating the issuance of the 10d stamp, So you will see that at this time there were two stamps doing postage duty to Great Britain. Many collectors ask why the 7½d. should be rarer than the 10d. when they were both used at the same time and to prepay postage to the same country. In answer to this, it is claimed, that in the fifties, the Canadian mails were much slower, consequently the bulk of the mail matter went via New York, so in this way more of the 10d stamps were used.

The 12d, the rarest of our Canadian stamps was issued to prepay letters to India, although numbers of these have been found in Canada on letters requiring four rates of postage.

When the cent issues came into use in 1859, the rates of postage were charged as follows:

1c for single rate newspapers.

2c for double rate newspapers, also for city letters.

5c was the rate for letters, all over the Dominion.

10c stamp was issued for letters requiring double postage.

12½c green of this issue was used to prepay letters to Gt. Britain by the Canadian packet

17c was used for the same purpose) but via New York.

In 1885, Mr. F. H. Best of this city, wrote an article giving the reasons why certain stamps were issued, nearly all of which were misrepresented. In this article, Mr. Best claimed that the 17c stamp was issued to prepay letters to India; this of course, was an error, and it is surprising that a man of Mr. Best's vast experience should have displayed such ignorance of the subject he was treating.

The 8c Registration stamp is one that many collectors could never see the use of. This was the registration fee in 1875 to Gt. Britain and foreign countries. This stamp had only been in use a few months, when the rate was reduced to 5c, the same as the fee to to the United States; this accounts for the rarity of the 8c Register. I might add that the regular postage had to be affixed, in addition to the registration fee.

Without going into the whole series of Canadian stamps, I might add in conclusion, that only the other day a lady wrote asking the the use of the 7c stamp; needless to say I wrote giving the desired information.

7c Stamps

King's Head - $1 00 per 100
Queen's Head $2.00 per 100
Any quantity at above prices.

Geo. A. Lowe

61 King St. West - Toronto.

THE
DOMINION PHILATELIST,

Official Organ of the Dominion Philatelic Association.

Subscription - 25c per Year.

ADVERTISING RATES, 50c per inch.

Write for special discount for time and space.

A. M. MUIRHEAD,
PROPRIETOR.
155 Howland Ave., Toronto, Can.

Will esteemed contemporaries to whom this number of our great family journal is sent, kindly put us on their exchange lists?

* *

Nominations for officers of the D.P.A. will soon be in order. One thing should be looked to; that a better distribution of officers be secured. The present deplorable congestion of officers at Toronto should be remedied this year, and the only way in which this can be done is for members to nominate parties residing in various sections of Canada. Toronto members will be glad of the opportunity to vote for good people residing outside of their own division of God's Country.

* *

We had the pleasure, recently, of meeting Mr. I. E. Weldon, past president of the D.P.A., who passed through the city. Mr. Weldon and ourselves represented antagonistic political interests in the old days, but on meeting he gave us a cigar, and seemed penitent. He is practising the legal profession on the public of Richmond, Va., and before leaving Toronto, be placed with Secretary Lowe, his application for re-affiliation with D.P.A.

President's Address

Members of the D.P.A. :—

The matter of this year's convention has had my attention during the month. The nominations reaching, me included Hamilton, Berlin and Toronto. For several considerations I have chosen the last named city as the place of the meet. The large attendance which can be obtained, coupled with its accessible position, render it, this year to my mind, the logical locality for the convention- It would please me, personally, to have been able to select some other city, but we are at present in the position of attempting to raise the standard of the Association from the undesirable plane to which it had degenerated, and it is found that interest in D.P.A. affairs has suffered, outside of Toronto, to a greater degree than in that city. Hence, to-day, there is serious doubt if any other place could muster a sufficient quota of members to score a successful meet. Let us then make up our minds to hold a convention which will creditably compare with former occasions.

In this connection, Mr. John Ely, Eglington, Ont., has promised to donate $25.00 toward the expenses of convention.

Officers reports show a continued in rhe functions of the Association, and it will be voted that new applications for membership are beginning to come in, in fact that there are many members who have failed, thus far, to place their dues. The regrettable manner in which the Association had been run is, no doubt, responsible for this, and it is thought that members will now be more inclined to

The Dominion Philatelic Association.

PRESIDENT, A. M. MUIRHEAD, 155 Howland Ave., Toronto.
VICE PRESIDENT ,CANADA, W. KELSEY HALL, Peterboro, Ont.
U. S. VICE PRESIDENT, J. S. COPPER, Tiffin, Ohio.
SECRETARY-TREASURER, GEO. A. LOWE, 61 King St. W., Toronto.
SALES SUPT., D. P. DUGGAN, 146 Duke St., Toronto.
AUCTION MANAGER, C. J. THOMAS, 18 Ottawa St., Toronto.
COUNTERFEIT DETECTOR, J. H. JOST, Halifax N. S.
LIBRARIAN, R. F. WRIGLEY, 293 King St. West, Toronto.
OFFICIAL ORGAN: THE DOMINION PHILATELIST.
INITIATION FEE, 10C. DUES, 25C per year

be businesslike in their dealings with the society.

A. M. Muirhead,
President.

Librarian's Report

I beg to acknowledge receipt of the following donations :

From E. F. Wurtele, Quebec, 10 pieces.

From Chas. Bailey, Toronto, 55 pieces.

Copies of old Canadian magazines not enumerated in the Library's catalogue are especially desired. Any member not having a copy of catalogue may have same on receipt of 1c stamp.

R. F. Wrigley,
Librarian.

Sales Superintendent's Report

Fellow members :—

I wish to call the attention of the members to some errors and omissions that have lately been brought to my notice, viz :

I find that some members retain the circuits for a greater length of time than the rules allow in some instances for a period of three weeks or more. This is not fair to members who own books in the circuits. In the other case I find on one or two circuits, members omit to initial spaces which put the department and non-offending members to needless bother and expense, before matters are satisfactorily adjusted. In future, members are requested to pay more attention to the rules.

I have pleasure to report the following :

68 books in circulation last report	$622 10
9 " received since	73 07
77 books now in circulation	$695 17
Sales on circuits Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4	76 89

Fraternally yours,
D. P. Duggan, Supt.

Call for Dues

All members of the D.P.A. who have not as yet placed their dues for 1904 in my hands, are urged to attend to the matter at once.

The suspension of members for non-payment of dues is the one disagreeable function of the Secretary, and I do not want to exercise it in a single instance, if I can avoid doing so.

G. A. LOWE,
Sec-Treas.

Secretary's Report

FINANIAL

Donated by Toronto members	$5 00
Dues and fees to date	$10 40
	$15 40

Printing	$8 00
Postage	2 09
Stationary	25
Balance on hand	5 06
	$15 40

NEW MEMBERS

738. E. Marks, Toronto.

APPLICATIONS

Mrs. C. Poer Trench, Sidney, Victoria, B. C. References: W. W. Bolton, W.M. Trench, J. P.

H. B. McLeod, Melborne, Ont., April 21. Occupation: Clerk. References: Ambrose R. Bee, G. A. Lowe.

I. E. Weldon, Richmond, Va., Age 29. Occupation: Barrister. References: G. A. Lowe, A. M. Muirhead.

Edgar Fawcett, Victoria, B.C. Occupation: Clerk Customs. References: W. W. Bolton, C. E. Renouf.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

J. S. Williams, from 58 Manse St. Montreal. to Three Rivers, Q.

In accordance with the constitution, the above applications are now published. If no objection is received by me within two weeks from date, the applications will be considered accepted, and appear in the next number of the official organ as such.

Dues for 1904 will be payable Jan. 1st, and members are asked to remit same promptly.

For application blanks and all information address.

GEO. A. LOWE, Sec.Treas.
61 King St. West, Toronto.

Real Special Bargains

10 Varieties Newfoundland.....	12c
20 " "	60c
25 " "	75c
30 " "	$1 00
*Cabot Set, complete, 1—60c O.G.	2 75
Canada Jubilee, used, good copies, ½c to $5.00 complete	6 50
Australia, Fine value, good copies 50 All Different Stamps.....	14
75 " " "	60
100 " " "	90
150 " " "	2 00
200 " " "	3 00
2000 Entirely Different, Stamps, all picked copies, from nearly every country, post free and registered	13 00

Our large wholesale and retail list is FREE. It is worth as much to have as the standard catalogue. Send to-day.

MARKS STAMP CO.

TORONTO - - CANADA.

Largest wholesale and retail stamp stock in Canada.

COIN CATALOGUES

Breton's History of Canadian Coins, being a catalogue of all Canadian coins and tokens, with value of each, 250 pages illustrated Post free—$1 00.

G. A. LOWE, 61 King St. West
TORONTO, ONT.

EXCHANGE

Parties having good duplicates in British Colonial Stamps, if they will send on approval, I will send good selection in return.

G. A. LOWE, 61 King St. west.
TORONTO, ONT.

D.P.A. AUCTION

Anyone may bid. Each lot is sold as one piece, irrespective of number of stamps. If more than one bid at same price is received, the lot will be awarded to bid first received. Successful bidders are expected to remit on receipt of notice. Bid early. Sale closes Mar 15

Lot No.		No. in Lot.
B 82	Jamaica 1890 1d	15
83	Pan-American set nnused	
94	Newfoundland ½c new	35
85	" ½c used	35
86	Japan 15 sen cat $1.50 and 1 Faridkot p c. cat 15c	2
87	Br. Colonies, 50 varieties	
88	Transvaal 1d K.H.	25
89	Canada 2c purple env new	
90	" 2c on 3c " used	
01	" 2c on 3c M.L.	25
92	" 100 5d, 50 ½d numeral	
93	" 5 10c; 50 maps	
94	" 500 3d 1883; 100 2d Columbian	
95	1380 Good clean varieties mounted according to countries.	
96	2000 same as above.	

Sale closes May 10th

Members are requested to forward for next sale at once.

CHAS. J. THOMAS, Auc. Mgr. **18 Ottawa St. Toronto.**

Unused Canada

To the collector of unused stamps these are very attractive.

		Cat.	My price
1869-72	1c	04	02
	2c	12	05
1875-79	15c	40	25
1882-90	½c	02	01
	3c	08	05
	5c	20	10
	6c	45	20
	10c	20	25
1892-93	20c	35	25
	8c	60	25
Jubilee	1c	04	02
	2c	05	03
	3c	06	04
	10c	25	15
	15c	35	20
1897	½c	02	01
	1c	03	02
	2c	05	03
	3c	08	04
	5c	10	06
	6c	20	10
	8c	18	12
	10c	25	15
1898	½c	01	01
	2c purple	06	03
	6c	25	10
	8c	25	12
Surcharges:			
	2c No 84	05	03
	2c No 85	04	03
Map Stamp		05	03

The above 30 varieties, catalogued at at $5 13, sent postpaid and registered for $2.50.

A. M. MUIRHEAD
155 Howland Ave. TORONTO.

Fine Stamps at Low Prices

Honduras, '91, 1c to 1p, 11 var fine	25
" '01, 2, 5 and 10 pesr's "	25
The above 2 sets for 45c. A bargain.	
*Panama, prov, 3 var	10
*Persia '98, 1s to 10k, 15 var cat $6.50	$2 00
*Foo Chow, fine, com 12 var	1 00
*Ichang " " 10 var	75
Nankin " " 16 var	75
*Venezuela Maps, com, 5 var	12
*Liberia, 23 var fine O.G. copies	1 00
Sweden 30 var	10
*Nyassa 1901, 13 var complete	70
*St Settle'ts, King's Hd, 1c blk of 4	06
" " " 3c	03
*Malta 2½d Kings Head	12
Japan, 1899, 1900 1 yen	10
Siam, 1900, 64 atis	15
France '00, 40c, 50c, 1, 2, and 5 fr	30
*Hawaii, 10c black, prov No. 61	20
" 25c dark violet No. 64	70
Chili, 1892, 1 peso	12
Zanzibar, '06, 4a	12
1000 different, mounted in book	4 00
500 " " sheets	1 25
100 " U.S.	20
2000 finely mixed foreign	25
3000 die-cut hinges	20
Approval Books, 10c per 10,..100..	75
Nickel-plated stamp tongs	30
Colour Dictionary, illustrated	30
Scott's Standard 1904 catalogue	58
700 sets 9 var Cuban leveries	1 25

We have a very fine line of approval sheets, and would be pleased to send you a selection.

Our price list is free.

TIFFIN STAMP CO., Tiffin, Ohio.

Sale and Exchange.

A 25 word notice for 10c, additional words half-cent each. Three insertions for the price of two.

SPECIAL—A 25 word notice inserted once free with subscription or to any new member of the D.P.A.

Stamps wanted for cash; send description or send on approval and state lowest price. Anything better than the commonest is useful at the right price. A. M. Muirhead, 155 Howland Ave., Toronto, Ont.

Exchange: Philatelic papers, American for Canadian. Send lists. Also papers and stamps for shades in Canadian and Newfoundland cent and pence issues. Give cash prices. J. S. Robertson, Box 813, St. Thomas, Ont.

Stamp Collectors' Club.

Of the City of Toronto.

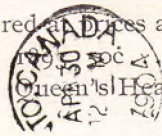
Meetings: Every Tuesday, 8 p.m at Broadway Hall, 450 Spadina Avenue, Toronto.
President, W. E. BROWN.
Vice-President, JOHN ELY.
Secretary-Treasurer, F. W. FISHER, 4 Lindsay Ave.
Auction Manager, G. A. LOWE.
Auction Clerk, W. S. Bayley.
Official Organ :THE DOMINION PHILATELIST.

The Toronto Philatelic Club.

President, H. J FAIRHEAD
Vice-President, W. J. WALKER
Honorary President, Sir Wm. MULOCK
Honorary Vice-President W. E BROWN
Sec'y-Treas., D. L. MACMILLAN
Auction and Sales Sup't, E. Y. PARKER
Executive—
G. A. LOWE, DR A. BOULTBEE,
E. A. CORKER, A. M. MUIRHEAD,
D. P. DUGGAN, W. J. WALKER,
E. MARSHALL
Official Organ: THE DOMINION PHILATELIST.

Where Bargains Are

Picked copies of the following desirable Canadian stamps are offered at prices as under.



20c		.....10c
Queen's Head	7c	.....02c
"	10c	.....02c
" "	20c	.....06c
King's Head	7c	.....02c
" "	10c	.....04c

The above six stamps for 20c

"Three Star" Packets

No. 30 contains 25 varieties of African Stamps, remarkable value at 25c.

No. 40 contains 25 varieties of West Indian Stamps, no Cuba or Porto Rico, price 25c

No. 50 contains 25 Australasian Stamps, many good ones....25c

No. 60 contains varieties of Asian Stamps, no Japan 25c

Approval Deparment

I can take care of a good many requests for Approval Books at 50, 40, 33⅓ and 25 per cent. discount. References required from parties not known to me.

Note Well

I can supply almost anything in stamps, and I will make very advantageous rates on everything.

ESTABLISHED 1890

A. M. Muirhead

155 Howland Ave., Toronto.